KOREAN AVIATION MISHAP

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OBJECTIVES

- **REVIEW THE EVENTS OF A CH-53 CRASH AND MASS CASUALTY OFF POHANG, KOREA DURING TEAM SPIRIT ‘89**
- **DESCRIBE THE TRAUMA MANAGEMENT OF 16 CASUALTIES ABOARD THE USS BELLEAU WOOD LHA-3**
- **REVIEW THE TRIAGE AND LESSONS LEARNED**

USS BELLEAU WOOD LHA-3

TEAM SPIRIT ‘89

WESTPAC ‘89
AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT EXERCICES

POHANG, KOREA

USS BELLEAU WOOD
LHA-3

POHANG, KOREA
20 MARCH 1989

CH-53 HELICOPTER CRASH

34 SOULS ABOARD

CRASH OCCURRED AT 0650 AM IN A CREEKBED OFF POHANG, KOREA

INITIAL SURVIVORS DRAGGED FROM BURNING WRECKAGE

INITIAL FIELD TRIAGE OF MASS CASUALTIES

- BATALLION SURGEON PROVIDED TRIAGE AND FIRST AID AT SCENE

- ARMY BLACKHAWK AND MARINE CH-46 MEDEVAC HELOS IMMEDIATELY BRING SURVIVORS TO THE USS BELLEAU WOOD

ARMY BLACKHAWK MEDEVAC HH-60

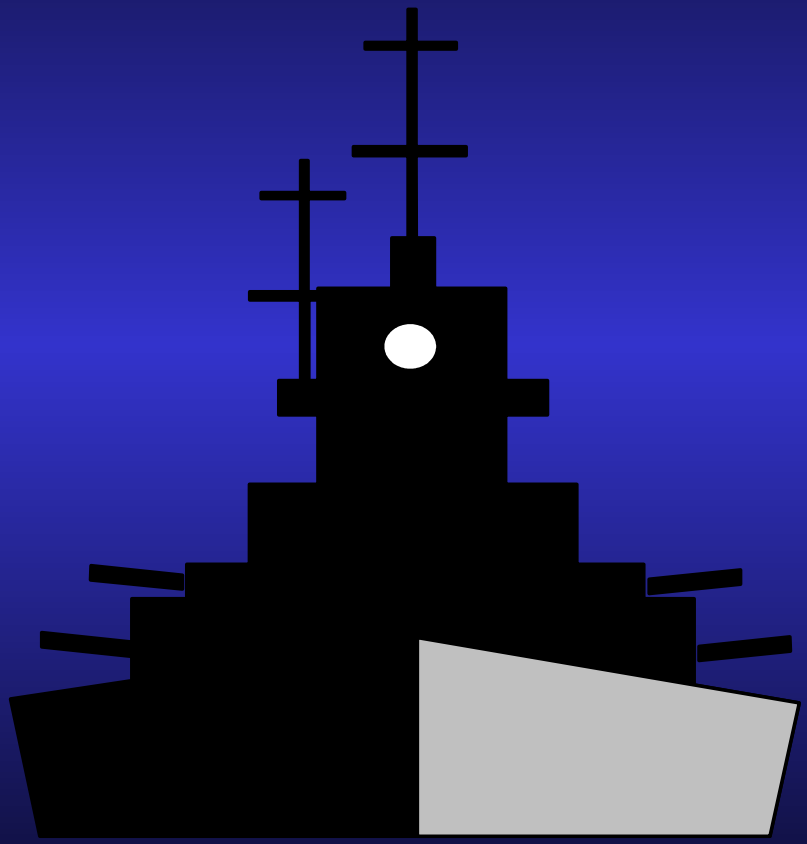
CH-46 MEDEVAC LIFT OF OPPORTUNITY

CASAULTIES FLOWN TO PRIMARY CASUALTY-RECEIVING SHIP

- USS BELLEAU WOOD LHA-3

USS BELLEAU WOOD LHA-3

USS BELLEAU WOOD



- 6 PHYSICIANS
- 1 NURSE ANESTHETIST
- 2 NURSES
- 2 IDCS
- 16 HOSPITAL CORPSMEN
- 2 MSC OFFICERS

MASS CASUALTIES INBOUND

ACTUAL SCENES FROM 1989 MASS CASUALTY

TAKEN BY SHIP'S PHOTOGRAPHER

Patient arrives
Flight Deck Triage

Additional patients arrive

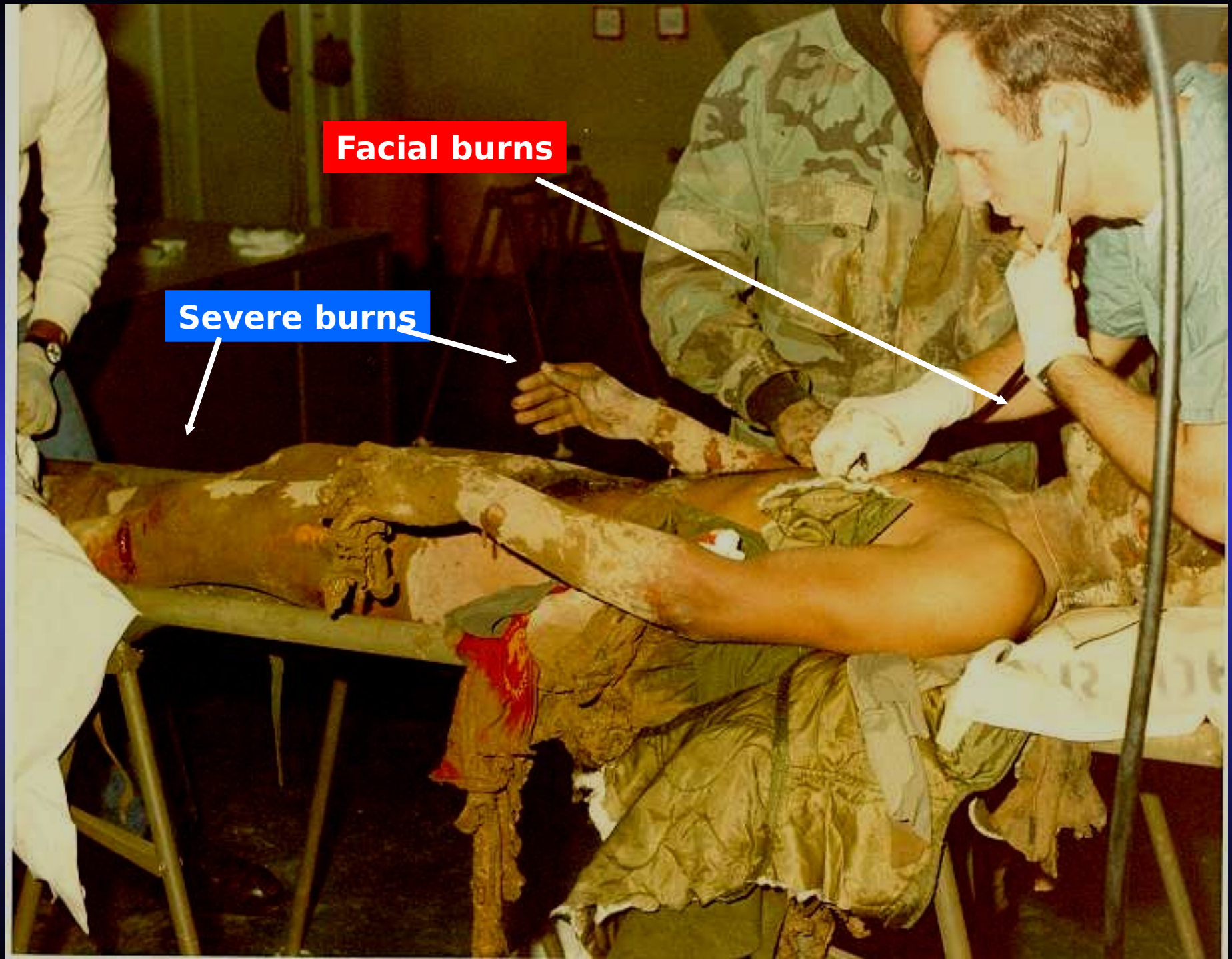
Pt #1 taken to Main Medical Triage from flight deck.

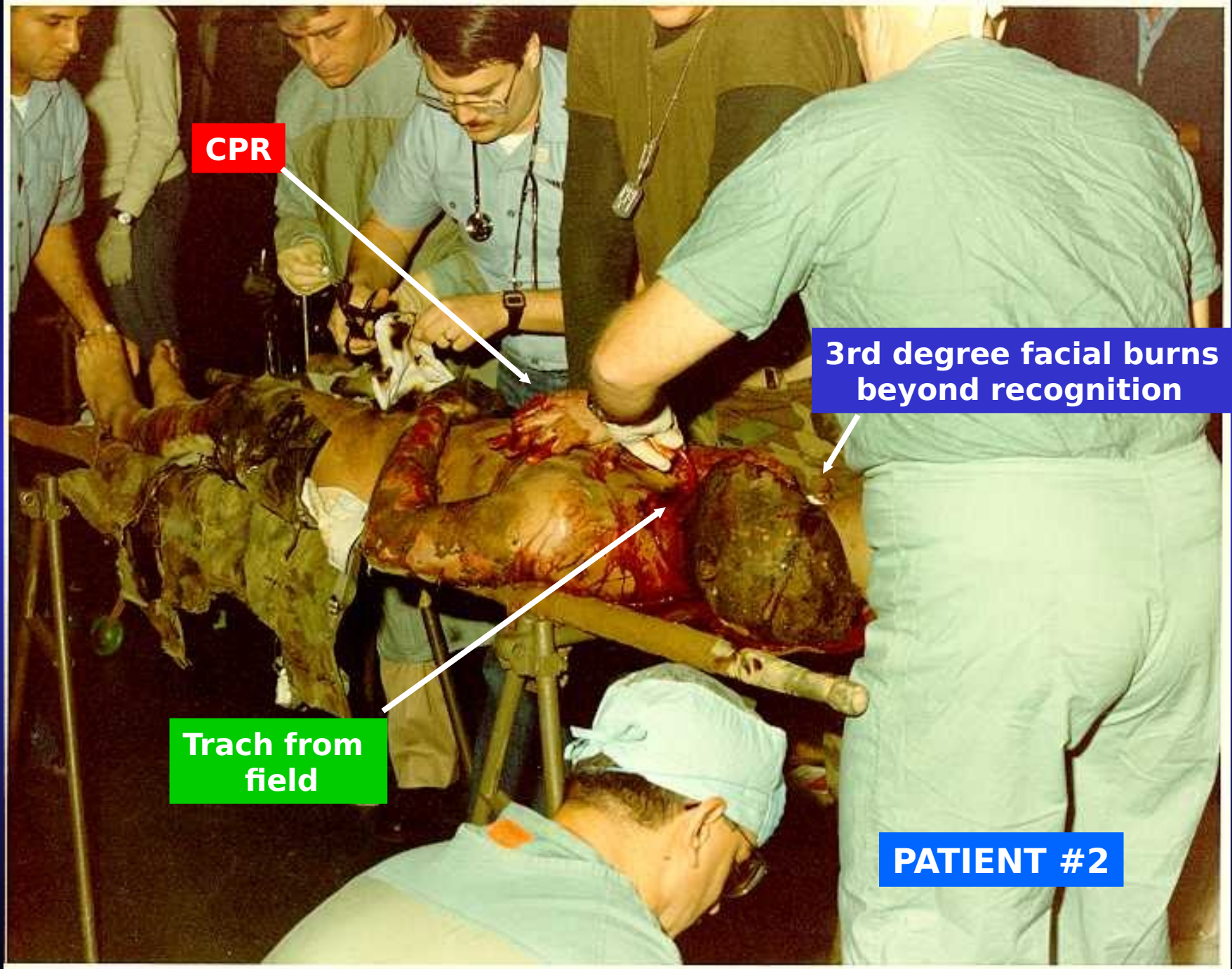
16 TRAUMA PATIENTS

- **16/16 BURNS (9/16 > 40% BSA)**
- **16/16 EXTREMITY INJURIES**
- **16/16 FACIAL / HEAD INJURIES**
- **5/16 FRACTURES**
- **5/16 THORACO/ABDOMINAL TRAUMA**
  - **REFER TO HANDOUT**

16 TRAUMA PATIENTS

- **#1 BURNS, 2ND DEGREE TO FACE,HANDS,BACK,ABDOMEN, EXTREMETIES (40%)**
- **#2 BURNS, 3RD DEGREE TO FACE, EXTREMETIES, HEAD TRAUMA, TRACHEOSTOMY IN FIELD, CPR**


Facial burns
Severe burns

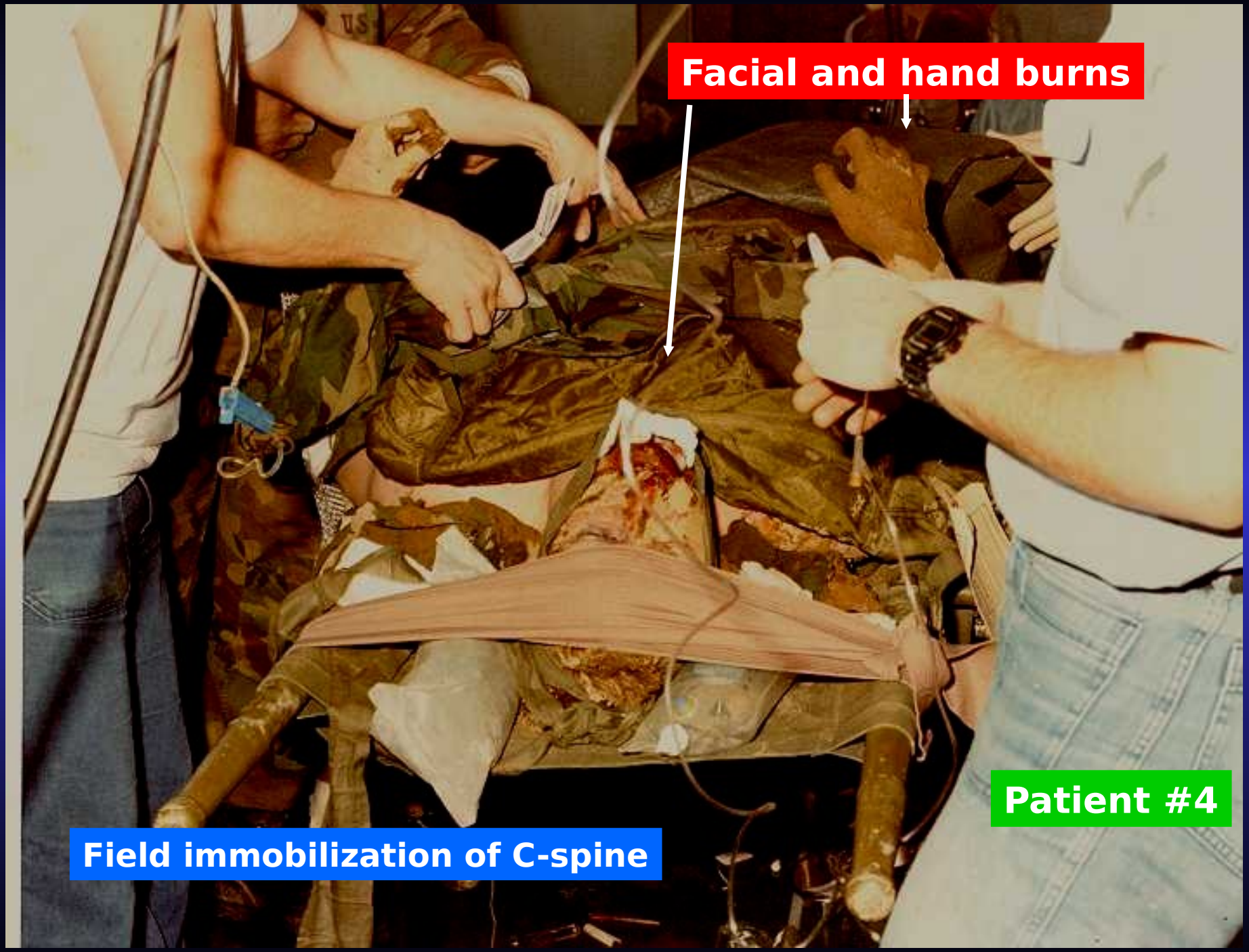

CPR
3rd degree facial burns beyond recognition
Trach from field
PATIENT #2

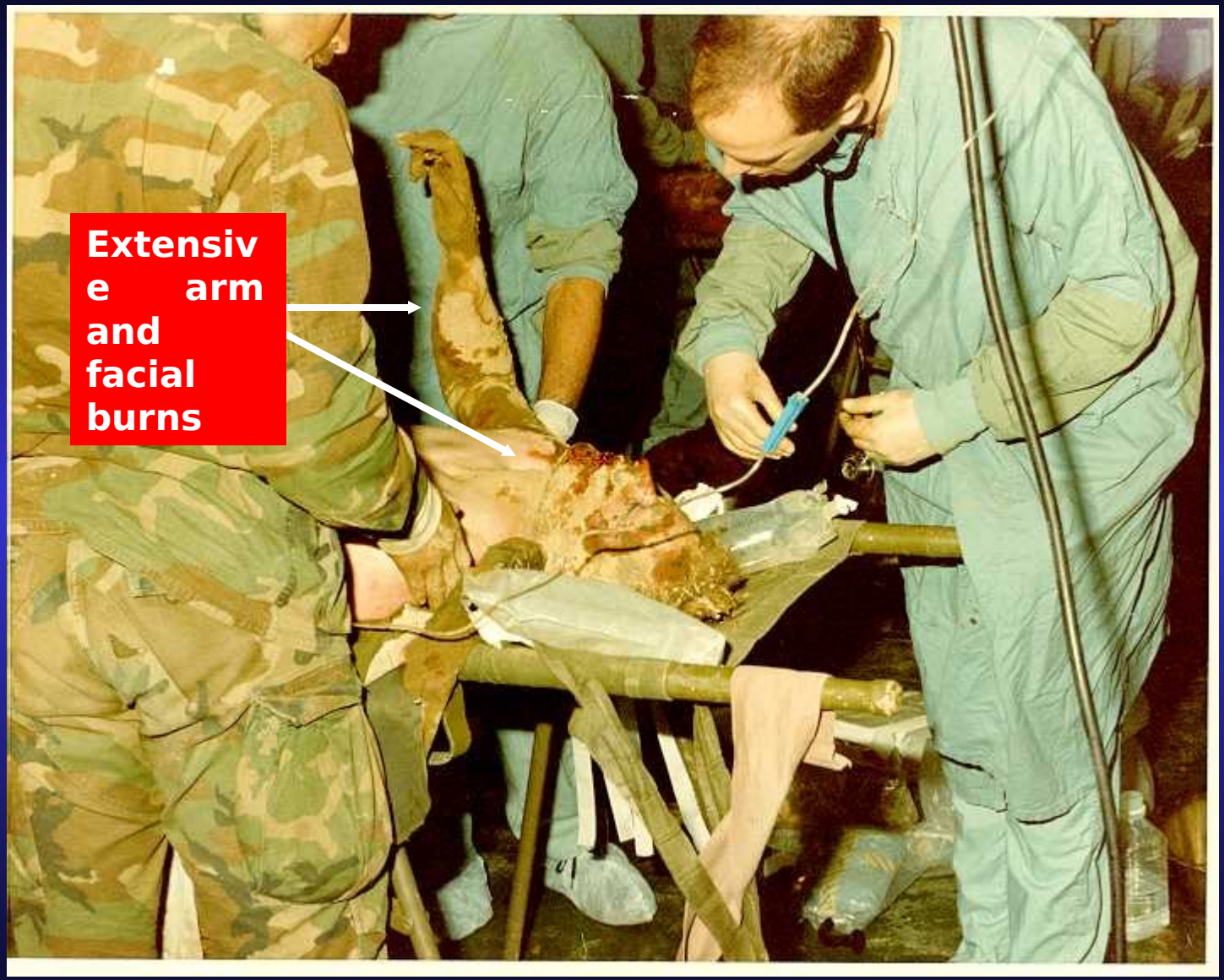
Pt #2 pronounced dead after 2 minutes CPR

TRAUMA PATIENTS

- **#3 BURNS, 2ND DEGREE (30%) FACE, HANDS, EXTREMITIES, INTUBATED**

- **#4 BURNS, 2ND DEGREE, (30%) FACE, HANDS, EXTREMITIES, INTUBATED, FASCIOTOMY OF HANDS, RIGHT LEG**

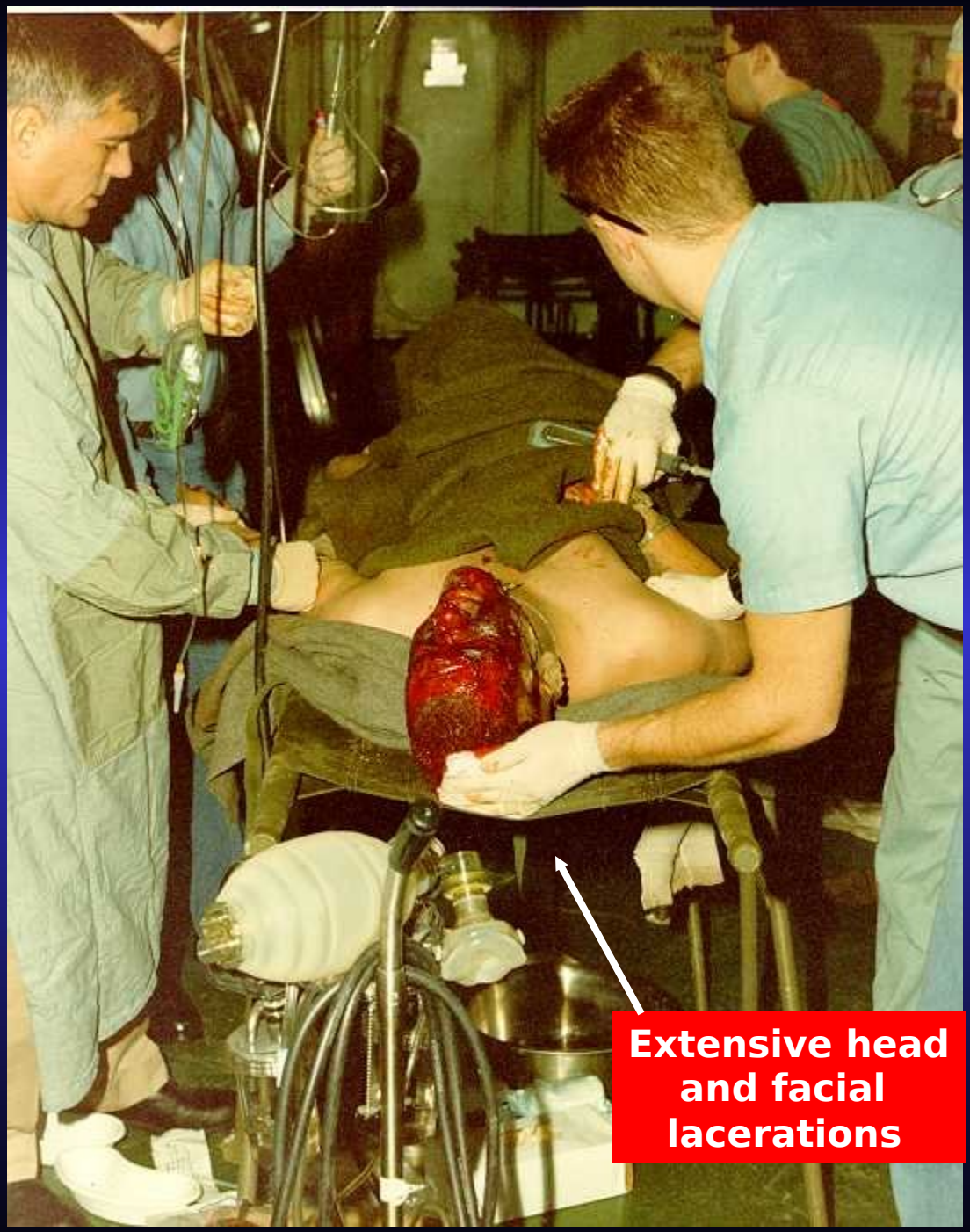

Facial and hand burns
Patient #4
Field immobilization of C-spine


Extensive arm and facial burns

TRAUMA PATIENTS

- #5 BURNS, 2ND DEGREE, FACE, WRIST, ORIF TIB/FIB FX, HEAD LACERATIONS, BASILAR SKULL FX, INTUBATED

- #6 FACIAL, SCALP LACERATIONS, INTUBATED, ORIF FIBLULA, NEGATIVE DPL, BURNS OF HAND


Extensive head and facial lacerations

Note leg burns
Note mud on deck

TRAUMA PATIENTS

- #7 ORIF RIGHT TIB/FIB FX, THROWN FROM HELO, C-SPINE NEGATIVE, FOREARM FX.

- #8 BURNS, 2ND DEGREE (44%) HEAD, HANDS, BILAT LEGS, INTUBATED, BILATERAL FASIOTOMIES LEGS & HAND, HEMOLYSIS, TRANSFUSION

Splinted extremity
Supplies on deck

TRAUMA PATIENTS

- **#9 BURNS (30%) FACE, HANDS, LEGS, FX TMJ, BILAT LEG ESCHAROTOMIES, INTUBATED**
- **#10 BURNS (35%) FACE, HANDS, LEGS, LOWER LEG ESCHAROTOMIES, INTUBATED**

10
11
12
5
6

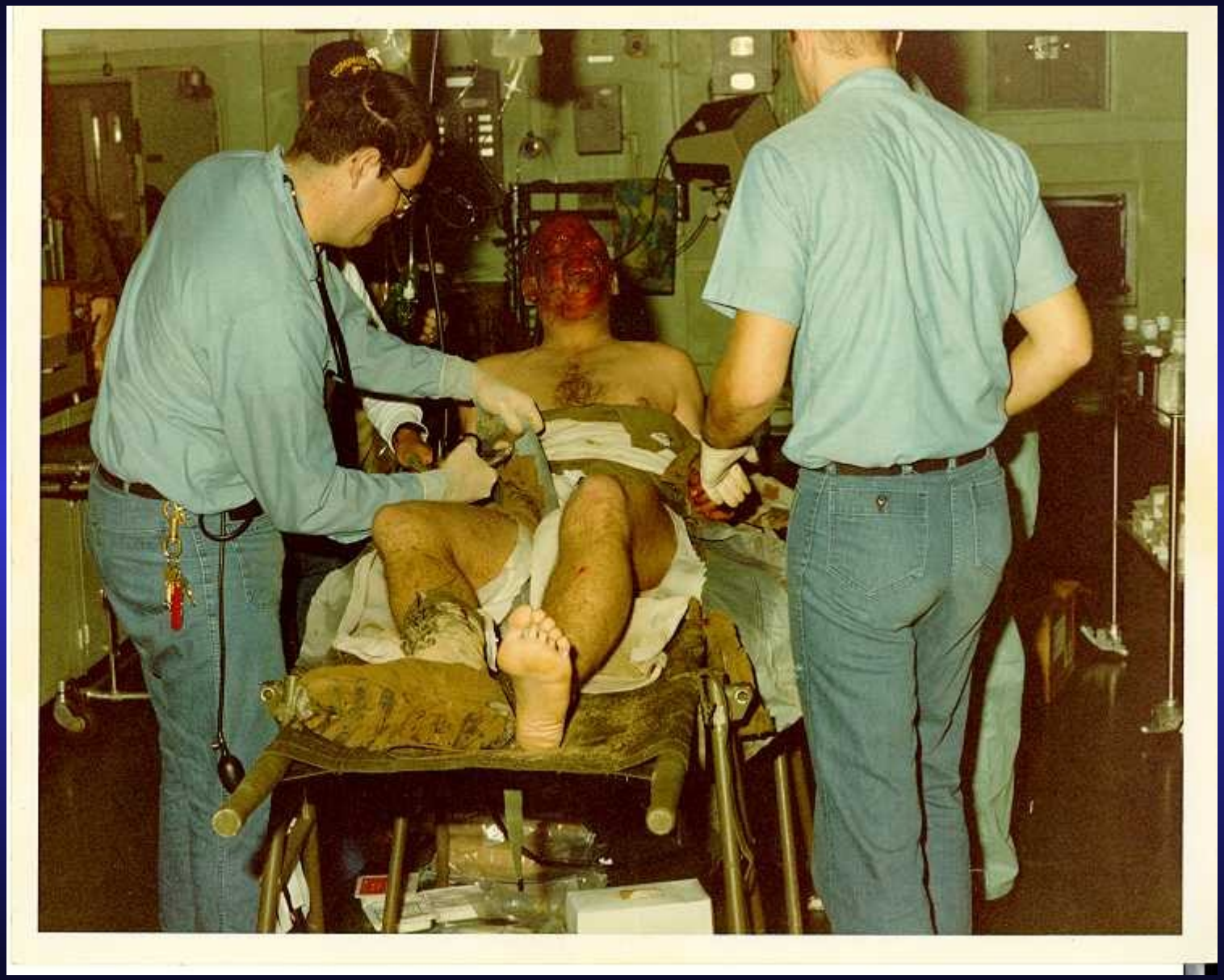
CORPSMAN TEAMS

CHAPLAIN

TRAUMA PATIENTS

- **#11 BURNS (8%) FACE, NECK, LEGS, ?LEAKING CSF, POSSIBLE BASILAR SKULL FX**

- **#12 BURNS (16%) FACE, HAND , LEGS, CONJUNCTIVAL EDEMA, INTUBATED**



TRAUMA PATIENTS

- **#13 BURNS (30%) FACE, ARMS, LEGS RIGHT ARM/LEG FASCIOTOMIES, WEAKLY POSITIVE DPL, CHIN AND INTRAORAL LACERATIONS**

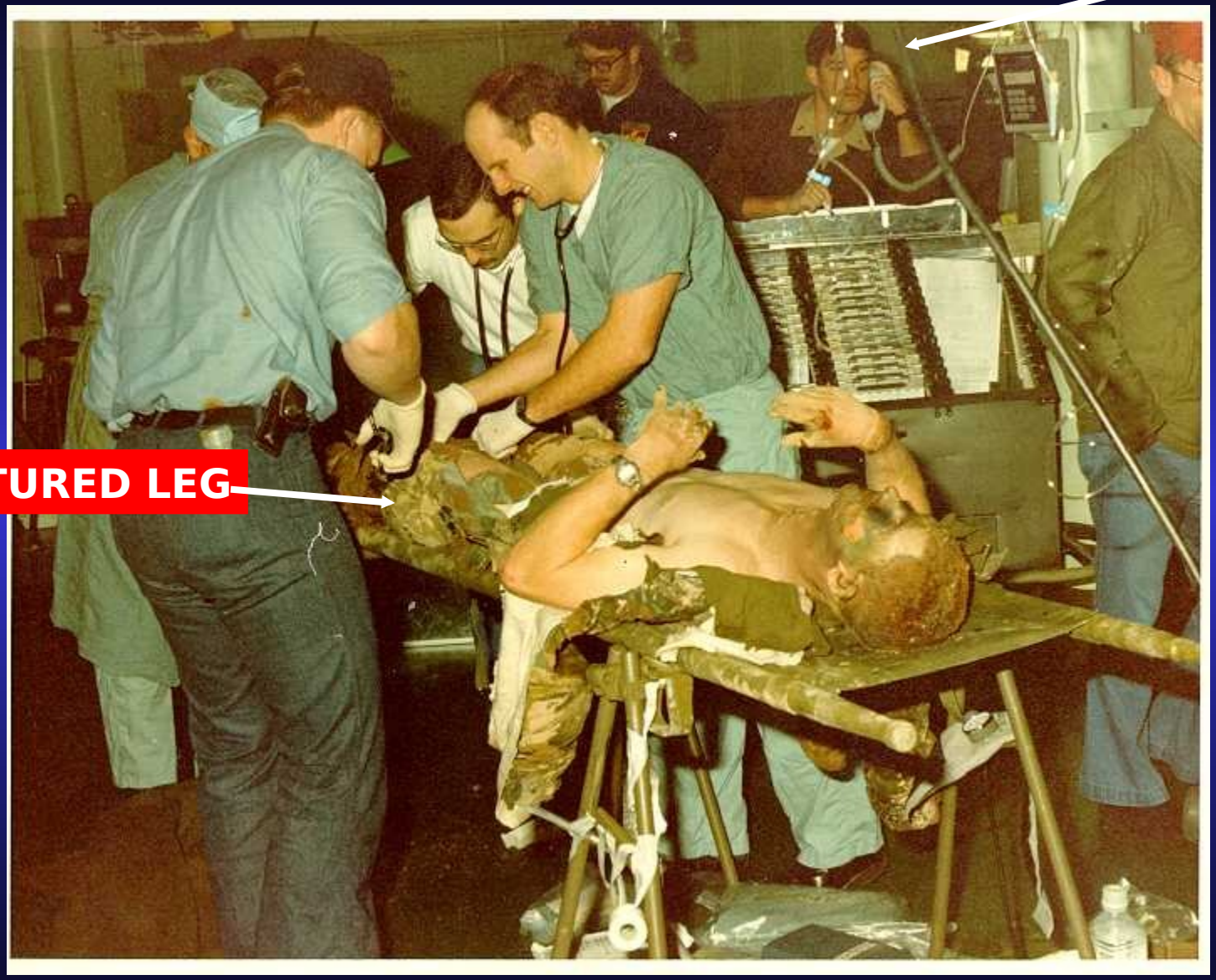
- **#14 BURNS (30%) HEAD, FACE LEGS**

SEVERE FACIAL BURNS

TRAUMA PATIENTS

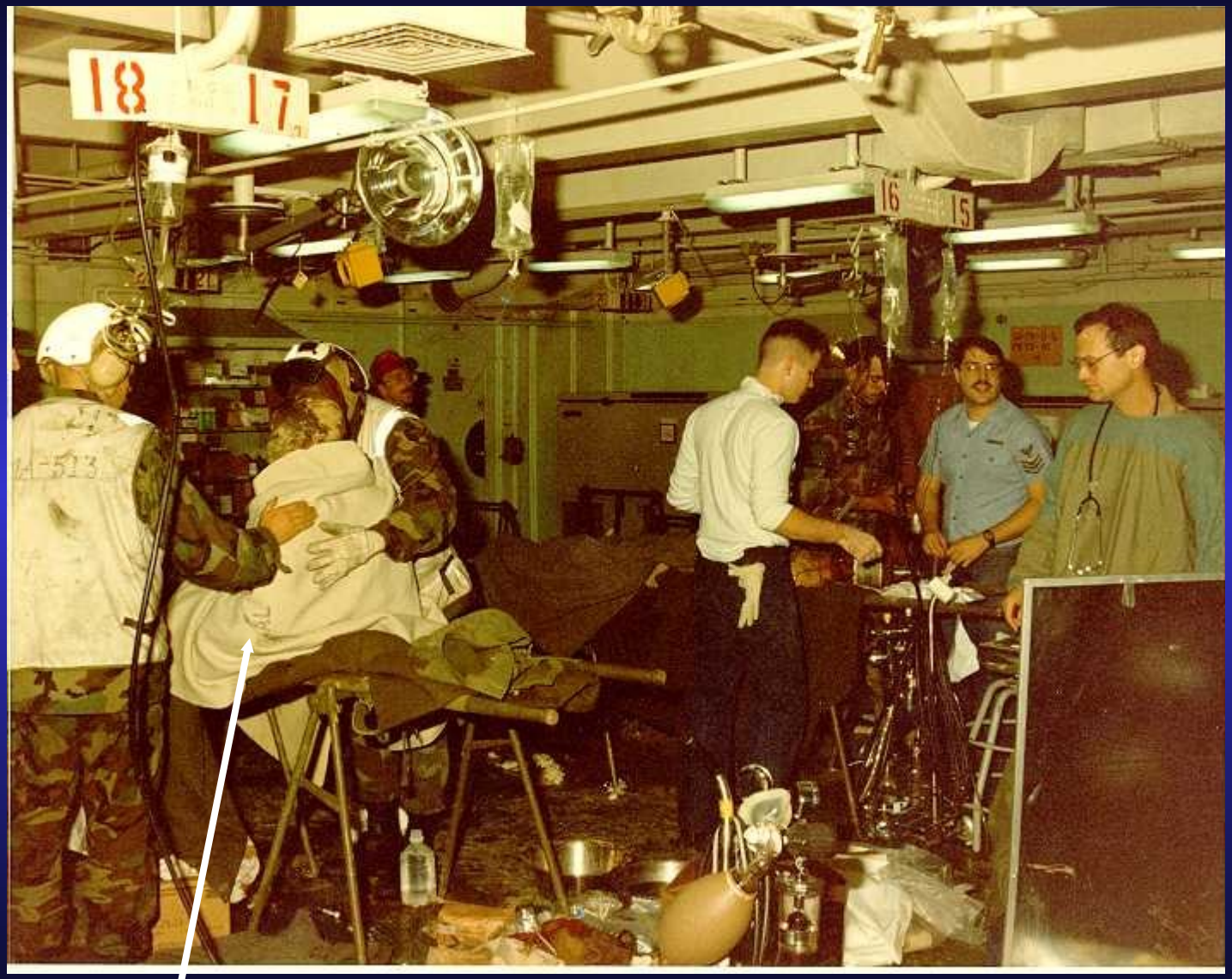
- **#15 BURNS (15%) FACE, LEGS, CLAVICLE INJURY**
- **#16 BURNS (23%) FACE, ARM,HAND, RIGHT ARM/HAND ESCHAROTOMIES, INTUBATED**

MSC OFFICER



FRACTURED LEG

LESS INJURED



BLANKETS FOR WARMTH

PREPARATIONS FOR TRANSFER

RELOADING CASUALTIES ON BLACKHAWK AND CH-46 MEDEVAC HELOS TO ARMY 121ST EVAC HOSPITAL

ARMY BLACKHAWK MEDEVAC HH-60

CH-46 MEDEVAC LIFT OF OPPORTUNITY

C-130 AT POHANG ALSO USED FOR MEDEVAC

CASUALTY FLOW AND TRANSFER

SEE HANDOUT

FLOW OF CASUALTIES

- CRASH TO USS BELLEAU WOOD
- SHIP TO AIRFIELD VIA HELOS

- 7 VIA HELOS, 8 VIA C-130 AIRCRAFT TO ARMY 121ST EVAC HOSPITAL SEOUL, KOREA
- FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS US ARMY BURN CENTER

CASUALTY SUMMARY

- **34 CREWMEMBERS**
- **19 DEAD: 18 ON SCENE, 1 DOA**
- **15 SURVIVORS**
  MULTIPLE TRAUMA, BURNS

INJURIES AND CARE

- BURNS
- FRACTURES
- LACERATIONS
- C-SPINE INJURIES
- HEAD INJURIES
- ABDOMINAL TRAUMA
- WOUND CARE
- SPLINTING
- IV FLUIDS & FOLEYS
- DPLs
- XRAYS
- ESCHAROTOMIES
- PAIN CONTROL
- ANTIBIOTICS

LESSONS LEARNED

MASS CASUALTY DRILLS

10
11
12
5
6

TRAUMA

- ABC’s, TRAUMA BAGS
- IV’s, FOLEYS
- BURN AND WOUND MANAGEMENT
- FRACTURE SPLINTING

USE OF ASSETS

- **TRANSFER OF ADDITIONAL PHYSICIANS TO USS BELLEAU WOOD TO AID IN CARE AND DOCUMENTATION**

BURNS AND AIRWAY

- **16 PATIENTS - 12 INTUBATED SOON AFTER ARRRIVAL TO ARMY HOSP.**

- **CONSIDER POSSIBLE DELAYS IN TRANSFER, THUS EARLY INTUBATION IN FACIAL BURNS**

OTHER ITEMS LEARNED

- COMMUNICATIONS OF MEDICAL REGULATORS ARMY, NAVY, MARINES

- EARLY EVACUATION OF SERIOUS CASUALTIES

OTHER ITEMS LEARNED

- DOCUMENTATION OF CARE
  IV FLUIDS
- LITTER STRAPS FOR BLANKETS ON FLIGHTDECK
- NON-SKID TRIAGE SURFACES

OTHER ITEMS LEARNED

- CROWD CONTROL
- CHAPLAIN'S SUPPORT
- CRITICAL STRESS DEBRIEFING
- USE OF SHIP'S PHOTOGRAPHY

THE SYSTEM CAN WORK!

- PLANNING!
- PRACTICE AS A TEAM!
- COMPOSURE!
- A LITTLE LUCK!

Questions
Comments